

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 16, wherein the component is a rotating blade for a turbine, and the dust discharge aperture is arranged in the neighborhood of a tip of the blade.

4. - 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A component of a fluid flow machine, the component comprising:

a blade having a foot portion, and wherein a coolant medium is introduced into the blade through a single passage disposed in the foot portion;

a leading edge and a trailing edge;

a first coolant passage comprising at least one curved flow section configured to curve in a first flow direction to establish coolant medium flow in the first flow direction; and

a second passage, the second passage (i) branching off the coolant passage at the curved flow section and (ii) being arranged to extend in the first flow direction along a flow path which is tangential to the curved flow section; and

a dust discharge aperture in communication with the second passage having a longitudinal axis essentially parallel to an axis of the fluid flow machine, the dust discharge aperture arranged at the trailing edge of the component and dimensioned to enable the introduction of a ~~borescope~~ borescope through the dust discharge aperture.

17. - 21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A component of a fluid flow machine, the component comprising:

a blade having a foot portion, and wherein a coolant medium is introduced into the blade through a single passage disposed in the foot portion;

a leading edge and a trailing edge;

a first coolant passage comprising at least one curved flow section configured to curve in a first flow direction to establish coolant medium flow in the first flow direction; and

a second passage, the second passage (i) branching off the coolant passage at the curved flow section and (ii) being arranged to extend in the first flow direction along a flow path which is tangential to the curved flow section; and

a dust discharge aperture in communication with the second passage having a longitudinal axis essentially parallel to an axis of the fluid flow machine, the dust discharge aperture arranged at the trailing edge of the component and dimensioned to enable the introduction of a borescope through the dust discharge aperture The component according to claim 16, and wherein[::]

the coolant passage comprises a first section through which the cooling medium flows toward the curved flow section, and a second section adjacent the first section through which the cooling medium flows away from the curved flow section;

the first section and the second section of the coolant passage are separated from each other by a first wall;

the second passage extends perpendicular to the first section and second section; and

the component further comprises a second wall including a first portion defining the second section and a second portion defining the second passage, wherein the first portion extends parallel to the first wall and the second portion extends perpendicular to the first wall.

23. (Currently Amended) A component of a fluid flow machine, the component comprising:

a blade having a foot portion, and wherein a coolant medium is introduced into the blade through a single passage disposed in the foot portion;

a leading edge and a trailing edge;

a first coolant passage comprising at least one curved flow section configured to curve in a first flow direction to establish coolant medium flow in the first flow direction; and

a second passage, the second passage (i) branching off the coolant passage at the curved flow section and (ii) being arranged to extend in the first flow direction along a flow path which is tangential to the curved flow section; and

a dust discharge aperture in communication with the second passage having a longitudinal axis essentially parallel to an axis of the fluid flow machine, the dust discharge aperture arranged at the trailing edge of the component and dimensioned to enable the introduction of a borescope through the dust discharge aperture ~~The component according to claim 16, and~~ wherein[[:]]

the coolant passage comprises a first section through which the cooling medium flows toward the curved flow section, and a second section adjacent the first section through which the cooling medium flows away from the curved flow section;

the first section and second section are separated from each other by a first wall;

the first section is defined by the first wall and a first portion of a third wall;

the second section is defined by the first wall and a first portion of a second wall; and

the second passage is defined by a second portion of the second wall and a second portion of the third wall;

wherein the first portion of the second wall is not connected to the second portion of the third wall.

24. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 16, wherein:

the coolant passage comprises a first section through which the cooling medium flows toward the curved flow section, and a second section adjacent the first section through which the cooling medium flows away from the curved flow section;

the first section is defined by a first wall and a first portion of a third wall;

a second portion of the third wall defines the second passage; and
there is a straight line of sight from the dust discharge aperture through the second passage to the first portion of the third wall.

25. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 16,
wherein:

the coolant passage comprises a first section through which the cooling medium flows toward the curved flow section, and a second section adjacent the first section through which the cooling medium flows away from the curved flow section;

the first section and second section are separated from each other by a first wall;

the first section is defined by the first wall and a first portion of a third wall; and

there is a straight line of sight through the second section to the first portion of the third wall.

26. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 16,
wherein:

the coolant passage comprises a first section through which the cooling medium flows toward the curved flow section, and a second section adjacent the first section through which the cooling medium flows away from the curved flow section;
and

particles entrained in the cooling medium pass through the first section,
through the second passage and are discharged through the dust discharge

aperture, while the cooling medium which is relatively free of particles flows through the second section.

27. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 16, wherein:

the coolant passage comprises a first section through which the cooling medium flows toward the curved flow section, and a second section adjacent the first section through which the cooling medium flows away from the curved flow section; and

the cooling medium flows through the first section to the curved flow section and then (a) flows away from the curved flow section through the second section, or (b) flows away from the curved flow section in the first flow direction along the path tangential to the curved flow section.

28. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 16, wherein:

the coolant passage comprises a first section through which the cooling medium flows toward the curved flow section; and

the cooling medium flows along a flow path from an end of the first section, through the second passage and to the dust discharge aperture, and the flow path is defined by a wall.

29. (Previously Presented) The component according to claim 16, wherein the dust discharge aperture is located at an end of the second passage.

30. - 33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) The component of claim 16, wherein the dust discharge aperture is formed directly in the trailing edge.

35. (New) The component of claim 23, wherein the second portion of the third wall is free of apertures.